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Note by the Secretary-General

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I. Action aides aux familles démunies

Special consultative status granted in 2002

I. Introduction

Impoverishment is on the increase, particularly in rural areas, placing people in an unprecedented state of poverty and in very precarious conditions; this is especially true for women and girls.

A. Aims of the organization

AAFD is a non-governmental organization that has been in consultative status since 2002. Its aims are to: ensure the socio-occupational integration of young people; educate its members; improve the living conditions of the underprivileged; combat AIDS; eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; fight all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls; and to contribute to a healthy environment in order to prevent childhood diseases.

B. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization's vision

AAFD has set up a branch in Lomé, which has been operating since 3 July 2006. AAFD is a member of the NGO Working Group on Girls (UNICEF).

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Since it was granted special consultative status, AAFD has been participating in briefings, forums and cultural activities and in the celebration of international days. In 2008, it was chosen by the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to make a statement in the Commission on Sustainable Development on why women are said to be most affected by desertification; it also gave a presentation.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Despite its meagre resources, AAFD has participated in a number of summits, briefings, forums and conferences held in Geneva and in New York. It attended the forum on civil society and the private sector and the Economic and Social Council high-level dialogue. It participated, with UNICEF, in a forum on female genital mutilation and its consequences for women's health, especially in Africa. It participates each year in all the meetings organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women and has participated in the forums organized by FAO on food security and water.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

AAFD cooperates with the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, UNICEF, the Department of Public Information, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the United Nations University, UNESCO, the Economic and Social Council, the Division for Social Policy and Development, the MDG campaign, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The steps taken by AAFD in the context of support for the Millennium Development Goals relate to: eradicating extreme p verty and hunger and creating decent small jobs, they are designed to facilitate access of farmers to land; modernize agriculture; create primary schools which introduce our national languages, educate girls and introduce them to science; raise public awareness about condom use; create community development centres to help pregnant women; combat all sorts of violence and discrimination against women; facilitate access to water and eliminate export taxes on local products in developing countries.

2. Architectes de l'urgence

Special consultative status granted in 2006

I. Introduction

Ever since it was set up, in 2001, Architectes de l'urgence has been working to provide emergency assistance to people facing difficulties as a result of natural or technological disasters or conflicts.

Aims of the organization

The foundation, Architectes de l'urgence, organizes field work involving architects and engineers in the service of people in need. It helps train local people by imparting its own knowledge about architecture so that they can be involved in their own reconstruction. It seeks to: (a) bring architects' skills to help people who have endured natural, technological or human disasters; (b) help rebuild decent and lasting housing and also essential infrastructure (schools, hospitals, water towers, roads); (c) help restart the economy by promoting the use of local materials with a view to encouraging sustainable development; (d) preserving and promoting the architectural, historical and cultural heritage of the world and safeguarding the environment; (e) supporting and developing the architects' commitment to humanity and encouraging the training of local actors. It has intervened in 26 countries: in Algeria, Bangladesh, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Madagascar, Martinique, Morocco, Romania and Turkey, in the context of assistance and reconstruction programmes, and in Afghanistan, Chad, Colombia, Haiti, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, Peru, the

Solomon Islands and Sri Lanka, in the context of emergency missions followed by development and reconstruction programmes.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The foundation's projects are part of a genuine participatory approach that includes the local population. These transfers of skills help to raise the awareness of local workers, architects and engineers and thereby ensure that the labour force learns the basic principles of construction and how a building site should be organized.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

The foundation operates with an eye to promoting sustainable development and risk mitigation and draws up programmes that are suited not only to the technical and architectural context but also to the social, environmental and cultural context.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

The foundation has carried out projects relating to sanitation and water supply with UNICEF, projects relating to housing for refugee populations with UNHCR and large-scale projects relating to earthquake-proof construction with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in several large-scale projects in Haiti.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Close adherence to the development goals set by the Economic and Social Council is a priority for the foundation. It emphasizes economic and social integration in order to revitalize the local economy: using local materials and know-how, employing local workers and contracting local small and medium-sized businesses. The foundation's approach is in keeping with strict respect for human rights, equality between the sexes and the fight against poverty and desertion of villages. It contributes to primary education by building or restoring schools — including schools for girls — and training centres for women and health centres. It has built or rehabilitated domestic reservoirs, water retention basins and water towers as well as sanitation infrastructures.

3. Association internationale de lutte contre la pauvreté et pour le développement

Special consultative status granted in 2002

I. Introduction

The Association internationale de lutte contre la pauvreté et pour le développement (AIPED) has its headquarters in Dakar. Geographical distribution: Africa (Senegal, Madagascar, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger); Europe: (Belgium, Italy, France,

Spain); America: (United States of America, Latin America). Affiliated associations: Focus Development Association (Madagascar) and others.

Aims of the organization

AIPED was established to combat the scourge of poverty, to promote sustainable development and respect for the environment and to participate in a future of world peace and justice. In order to achieve those aims, AIPED organizes seminars, conferences and workshops; analyses and audits programmes and projects already carried out; develops and popularizes strategic frameworks and programmes; initiates vocational training programmes; publishes reports on poverty, development and a culture of peace; takes part in awareness-raising campaigns on poverty; and participates in conflict prevention.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Organized a seminar to disseminate the Ministerial Declaration on Africa of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in July 2001 in Dakar and in 2002 in Niamey; organized a seminar to disseminate the poverty reduction strategy paper to those living in the suburbs of Dakar and villages in Senegal; documentary on the experience of the NGO, N'Dem Villagers' Association, from the Diourbel region in Senegal; made a short film entitled "SOS Sangoulé"; exhibition of inventions by Senegalese researchers; concert on the theme of combating poverty at the Montreuil Festival; worked with the Italian General Confederation of Enterprises, Professional Occupations and Self-employment (CONFCOMMERCIO), to provide on-site training for foreigners with a view to integrating them into the workforce; worked with the association, Franche Comté Solidaire, to combat poverty in 2005; took steps to encourage a partnership between the Ministry of Livestock and the Cooperative Union (COOPEX Montbéliarde) concerning livestock; framework agreement 2006 between the Ministry of Livestock, COOPEX, the Senegalese Institute for Agricultural Research (ISRA), the Committee of Integrated Development of Lambaye (CODIL) and AIPED.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Participated in the round-table meeting of July 2007 in Geneva on "Poverty eradication — making it happen"; participated in the annual NGO session (September 2004); participated in the seminar on capacity-building for the informal regional network (UN-NGO-IRENE) which saw the establishment of the informal network of African NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in January 2002; participation in the July 2001 session concerning the ECOSOC Ministerial Declaration on Africa on the theme of "The role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development".

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

Joint meeting with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on regulating migration flows (May 2007, Geneva).

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Study on possibility of developing a refrigeration project, aimed at maintaining pharmaceutical products at a given temperature to protect them from overheating. The use of solar energy is envisaged by this system at the intermediary, storage stage and at the final stage in vaccination centres (static or mobile).

4. Centre Europe-tiers monde

General consultative status granted in 1998

I. Introduction

The Centre Europe-tiers monde was founded in 1970 within the framework of the Association du Foyer John Knox and became independent on 17 June 1975. It has a very extensive network of partners throughout the world (over 120) and seeks to promote discussion on economic, social, cultural, civil and political development in the North as well as in the South.

Aims of the organization

The Centre aims to increase understanding of development problems and create an awareness of the need for greater commitment by world society, especially to the protection and promotion of all aspects of human rights of every kind. To achieve these objectives, it has the support of its network (more than 120 partner organizations in both North and South) and of its members (about 400 individual and collective members).

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

As part of its programme of work, the Centre has been particularly active in encouraging transnational societies to respect international standards, providing oral or written statements on several occasions. At the eighth session (2006) of the Working Group on the working methods and activities of transnational corporations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the Centre helped to draft the document entitled "The role of the State in the guarantee of human rights with reference to the activities of transnational corporations and other business entities". It has regularly taken the floor during sessions of the Human Rights Council and the Working Group and has also published a book entitled *Quel développement? Quelle coopération internationale?* (2007) and a booklet entitled *The Right to Development* (2007). It organized an international public symposium on the topic, International cooperation, development, development aid ... What are we really

talking about? (7-9 December 2007, Geneva). It also made a detailed presentation on the Declaration on the Right to Development at an international seminar on debt and human rights organized in Brussels in October 2007. In 2008, it published a discussion paper entitled, "The draft Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights". It was very active during the establishment of the new mechanisms for the Human Rights Council; it published *The Human Rights Council and its Mechanisms* in 2008. It also published a book entitled *Sortir le droit international du placard* (2008) on the relevance of the Charter of the United Nations.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

The Centre has worked in various ways with the United Nations and its agencies, particularly the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies, but also the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. In connection with the human rights bodies it made 74 statements on human rights mechanisms between 2006 and 2009; and it organized or made statements at more than a dozen conferences within the framework of the Human Rights Council.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

The Centre regularly cooperates with the United Nations agencies and bodies. Its cooperation takes various forms (participation in meetings, consultation, making statements) and with some of them (the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies), it does so on a sustained basis. It took part in the Sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on debt management (19-23 November 2007 in Geneva) and the seventh annual meeting of civil society organization focal points of international organizations (29 and 30 June 2009 in Geneva). It participated in substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council in July 2007 and July 2009, held in Geneva. It cooperated intensively with United Nations bodies and mechanisms in human rights matters: by transmitting its comments and observations or inviting them to make statements; by attending and actively participating in the meetings of various working groups; and by publicizing the activities of these bodies and mechanisms.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Centre is very involved in campaigns promoting economic, social and cultural rights initiated by the United Nations in relation to the MDGs. It contributed particularly to the promotion of Goal 1: through its publications, *The Right to Water* (2009), *The Rights of Peasants* (2009), *The Global Food Crisis and the Right to Food* (2008); Goal 2: by publishing *The Right to Education* and organizing an information campaign on that right; Goal 6: through its publications, *The Right to Health* (2006), *The Right to Housing* (2007) and a book for the general public, *La Santé pour tous! Se réapproprier Alma Ata* (2007); Goal 7, through its publication, *Transboundary Transfers of Toxic Wastes and Their Effect on Human Rights* (2009);

Goal 8: through its publications, *The Right to Development* (2007) and *Debt and Human Rights* (2007), and a book for the general public, *What Development? What International Cooperation?* (2007) and the trilingual global campaign manual, "Let's investigate debt! Manual for auditing third-world debt" (2006, in French, English, Spanish).

5. Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples

Special consultative status granted in 2002

I. Introduction

The Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (CIRAC) has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, which is based in Banjul. It is affiliated to the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) through the Coordination of African Human Rights NGOs.

Aims of the organization

To contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights through a better knowledge of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and international human rights instruments by way of seminars, workshops and conferences aimed at raising public awareness.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participated in the work of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council in Geneva; participated in Geneva, on 17 September 2008, in the UNCTAD hearing with civil society and the private sector; participated in the eighth special session on the situation of human rights in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 28 November 2008 and in the Regional Preparatory Meeting for Africa for the Durban Review Conference held in Abuja; participated in the first international forum of African civil society on economic integration in Africa, held in Merowe (northern Sudan), from 15 to 17 January 2009; and participated in the international mission to monitor the presidential elections in Mauritania, from 10 to 24 July 2009.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

Socio-economic, humanitarian and development activities: participated in the Connect Africa Summit organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in October 2007 in Kigali; participated in the work of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore in Geneva from 22 September to 1 October

2009: participated (with a written contribution) in the UNCTAD Public Symposium entitled "The global economic crisis and development — the way forward" (Geneva, 18-19 May 2009).

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: in June 2007 and July 2009, CIRAC organized events to raise funds and collect books for the restoration of two primary schools in the south-west of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Goal 7: CIRAC organized three information and awareness-raising sessions on HIV/AIDS screening for single mothers from 12 to 17 February 2006 in Kinshasa. CIRAC made an appeal, on 26 December 2008, for a democratic change, upholding human rights and freedoms, in Guinea.

6. Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers

Special consultative status granted in 2002

I. Introduction

The organization, founded in 1215, is made up of women and men from over 120 countries who bring their own specific approach to many different areas of activity, including education, health and support for those in precarious living conditions.

A. Aims of the organization

It aims to foster and facilitate an effective contribution by its members to the work of the United Nations, especially with regard to the promotion of fundamental human rights. Over the period 2006-2009, it focused on religious freedom, the right to food, the rights of minorities, the right to development, administration of justice, the rights of children, migrants and displaced persons, and human trafficking; it also prioritized the advancement of the Millennium Development Goals, especially the eradication of extreme poverty. As a result, it has enjoyed closer and more interactive cooperation with an increased number of United Nations mechanisms, to the benefit of its target populations.

B. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization's vision

At its 2006 plenary session, the International Commission of Justice and Peace of the Order of Preachers resolved to make the Millennium Development Goals a priority for the organization in the period 2006-2008. At its 2009 session, the Commission decided that they should remain a priority for another four years.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

During the review of the United Nations mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, many statements were made and there was much

consultation and fruitful discussion, both formal and informal, with the various actors involved in the process, namely Member States, United Nations bodies, and governmental and non-governmental observers. Through this education and information initiative, information circulated by the United Nations was disseminated and explained to the many people reached by our networks.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

In 2006, Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) participated regularly through oral and written statements in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights; it also took part in the 12 regular sessions of the Human Rights Council held in Geneva from 2006 to 2009. In addition, members of our organization contributed in various capacities to several meetings organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; the International Labour Organization, on the link between work and migration; and by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on digital education.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

In 2008 and 2009, our organization took an active part in several training sessions held for its members, its partners, and students, on the question of human dignity (Geneva, 2008 and 2009), the rights of the child (Geneva, 2009), and the human rights of migrants (Mexico, 2008). Several meetings were also organized in Rome, in 2008 and 2009, with other civil society organizations, to promote the use of United Nations mechanisms by religious communities with considerable expertise and a strong presence on the ground. In the area of advocacy, over the period 2006-2009 the organization played an active role in the process of promoting cultural rights, as set out in the draft guiding principles on extreme poverty, in consultation with Member States.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization was among the first to join the informal groupings of non-governmental organizations formed to promote the draft guiding principles on extreme poverty. Around 10 December 2008, several high-level symposiums were also organized by our entities and our members in the academic sphere. In the area of education, it has organized a number of side events at plenary sessions of the Human Rights Council. The Millennium Development Goals have been the subject of many statements in publications and the media where our members have a presence.

D. Additional information

Further information is available on our website: http://un.op.org.

7. Exchange and Cooperation Centre for Latin America

Special consultative status granted in 2002

I. Introduction

The Centre is an international non-profit organization that has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and observer status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Aims of the organization

The Centre brings together individuals and entities with a view to: (a) Participating in cooperation and commercial exchange projects and/or programmes, in collaboration with public and private institutions in Latin American countries; (b) Providing support, guidance and advice, in Switzerland and abroad, for individual or collective initiatives in all areas of cooperation and international trade; (c) Representing Latin American institutions in dealings with European institutions and international organizations; (d) Promoting a variety of useful studies and research in the area of cooperation and/or trade; (e) Promoting, supporting, establishing and managing projects for public and/or private institutions; (f) Maintaining a permanent information service concerning activities related to Latin American and European countries; (g) Organizing training programmes and courses in conjunction with other concerned institutions.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations organs: Between 2006 and 2010, the Centre participated in the ninety-sixth, ninety-seventh, ninety-eighth and ninety-ninth sessions of the International Labour Conference, held in Geneva. At these sessions, its delegates contributed to the technical committees and coordinated action with other civil society organizations. Delegates from the Centre have also taken part in the various annual public forums of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Meetings, commissions and technical committees in Geneva.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

The Centre has taken part in various international conferences held in Geneva under the auspices of UNCTAD, WIPO and WTO. Through its publications, the Centre seeks to contribute to the development of the activities of Latin American enterprises.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Initiatives to contribute to poverty reduction and institutional strengthening in Latin America. The Centre promotes economic development to reduce gaps between rich and poor countries and within countries. As part of its work, it has created two websites (www.geotradeshop.net and www.attorney-network.net) to facilitate access to business services linked to Latin American countries' economic and financial relations with Europe.

D. Additional information

The Centre is involved in the training and professional development of university graduates. Measures supporting the application of Economic and Social Council guidelines were fully implemented by the Centre during the quadrennial period 2006-2010.

8. Groupe pivot-droits et citoyenneté des femmes

Special consultative status granted in 2006

I. Introduction

The Groupe pivot-droits et citoyenneté des femmes is a network of eight associations and non-governmental organizations, whose mission is to help increase respect for the rights of women and give them a greater share of power by targeting three concerns: equality between men and women and between girls and boys in the family; elimination of violence against women; and women as citizens and in positions of power.

A. Aims of the organization

The Group's objectives are: to strengthen the institutional capacity and involvement of the Group and its members in the promotion and protection of women's rights; to make women aware of the extent of their rights and help them act as full citizens in order to increase their involvement in the management of public affairs; to work towards ensuring that concerns for women's rights and full participation in civic life are taken into account in the formulation and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes; and to establish and strengthen cooperative links, exchanges and strategic alliances at the national and subregional level for the protection and defence of women's rights and their full participation in civic life.

B. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization's vision

The failure to enact the draft Family Code of Mali, and the rise in religious fundamentalism.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The implementation of projects which promote action in the 12 critical areas of concern under the Beijing Platform for Action or which further the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; subregional and national follow-up to United Nations resolutions, and participation in the execution of certain programmes of the United Nations system.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Participation in the NGO forum and in the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

Ongoing project to strengthen the leadership capacity of women and to raise their awareness of the need to make their votes count. Financing its representation at meetings publicizing and disseminating the joint reports of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). Consultations with UNIFEM, UNDP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Exchanges with UNIFEM, UNDP, the World Bank, UNICEF and UNFPA.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

2006: A day of discussion with members of the judiciary on the application of the international instruments ratified by Mali before their incorporation into domestic law; information and consciousness-raising in order to involve women in the 2007 elections; advocacy for gender mainstreaming in political party charters. **2007**: Advocacy for gender mainstreaming in the electoral law and for the inclusion of women as election observers; implementation of a project to expand the participation of women in decision-making bodies; activities for the protection of women and girls against physical violence. **2008**: Publicizing the 2009 Constitution of Mali; Fortnight (31 July) on the effective enjoyment of women's rights to consider ways of combating the exploitation of women and girls; advocacy campaign for the adoption of the draft Family Code.

D. Additional information

Participation in subregional encounters of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID): members attended the subregional encounter in Banjul (November 2009) in preparation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women; partnership with other civil society organizations.

9. Ingénieurs du monde

Special consultative status granted in 2006

I. Introduction

Our organization has existed as a non-governmental organization for around 12 years and relies principally on the dedication and skills of volunteer engineers from every professional discipline and every region of the world. Our geographical scope is primarily in Africa, but also covers Latin America and Asia.

Aims of the organization

The organization works to improve the well-being and development of the people in emerging countries and developing regions by transferring know-how by: (a) involving an increasing number of volunteers from every continent; (b) spreading know-how and using direct exchanges between enterprises in all countries; (c) training technicians and specialists in relevant technologies; (d) providing support and technical assistance through the various associations and bodies of engineers and technicians of all countries; (e) updating and making available relevant and tested resources; (f) giving advice and managing projects aimed at developing professional structures; (g) providing support for the development of technical entities by sharing experience or technology; (h) respecting the United Nations guidelines relating to our technical fields; and (i) actually implementing projects.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The organization has participated in the following forums: the Economic and Social Council in 2006 and 2007, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, including in the consultations with delegations on joint field action in 2008; the Human Rights Committee in 2007 and 2008, the Commission for Social Development in 2007; the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2007 and 2008, the ECOSOC Special Event on Climate Change and Development in 2008; the Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals; the Sub-committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, in 2008, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in 2008.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

The organization has worked with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UNECE, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). In 2007, it worked with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ITU, WIPO, UNCTAD and UNECE.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

In 2007, the organization participated in the UNCTAD study of a telecommunications project in Tanzania and, in 2008, in the study of an entrepreneurship project as part of the UNCTAD Empretec programme. In 2009, it participated in a study by the International Labour Office of reconstruction projects in Somalia and new sources of energy under the auspices of the Geneva office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). In 2009, it participated in the UNESCO events in Paris to support vocational training projects in Africa and contributed to the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society under the auspices of ITU and UNESCO. It participated in the creation of an operational project in Arusha (Tanzania) to establish the Kilimanjaro International Institute for Telecommunication, Electronics and Computers.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization has been involved with the Millennium Cities Initiative through the United Nations and the Earth Institute at Columbia University. It has contributed to Goal 2 by helping to establish a school in Tanzania — financed by the Foundation for Technical Education in Geneva — and has submitted a proposal for the establishment of a school in Burundi to the specialized agencies.

D. Additional information

The organization is heavily involved in the conferences organized by the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) — comprising UNESCO, ITU, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNCTAD — on issues relating to new technologies and their financing.

10. Institut de la gestion déléguée

Special consultative status granted in 2006

I. Introduction

The Institut is a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the quality and effectiveness of public services through an open-minded examination of the issues based upon the experience of all the stakeholders involved. Its expertise is in the public interest field; it does not offer any consulting services in response to individual requests.

Aims of the organization

Its aim is to foster the emergence of a climate conducive to the sustainable development of public services in developed or in developing countries.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

At the third session of the World Urban Forum, held in Vancouver, Canada, from 19 to 23 June 2006, it participated in the international working group, piloted by UN-Habitat to identify the guiding principles that could provide a framework for the governance of essential services. In agreement with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Institute has proposed sending a set of guiding principles to the Economic and Social Council and other international organizations. During the fourth session of the World Urban Forum, held in Nanjing, China, from 3 to 6 November 2008, the Institute participated in the expert group meeting on the "International Guidelines for Access to Basic Services for All" project. During the twenty-second session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council, held in Nairobi from 30 March to 3 April 2009, it participated in the meeting at which the guidelines were approved.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

Meetings with representatives of the United Nations Secretariat on the process of elaborating the guidelines and on the political scope of the international initiative on access to essential services. In that connection, in 2008, the Institute carried out a study on the subject of international legal recognition of rights relating to essential services; meeting between UN-Habitat, UNDP and the Institute on 10 July 2009 in Geneva, with a view to the Council's adoption of the guidelines.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Institute has contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in Africa through the Africities Summits organized by United Cities and Local Governments Africa and Asia, and through the World Congresses of United Cities and Local Governments. At the World Congress, held from 28 to 31 October 2007 in Cheju, Republic of Korea, the Institute organized a session on the theme of **access to essential services and autonomy of local authorities**, with the participation of a number of international experts. During the fifth Africities Summit, held from 16 to 20 December 2009, in Marrakech, Morocco, the Institute organized a thematic session on the role of local communities in the development of people's right of access to basic services.

11. Society for Comparative Legislation

Special consultative status granted in 1950

I. Introduction

The Society for Comparative Legislation is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1869. As of the end of 2009, it had 650 members, 450 of whom are in France.

A. Aims of the organization

The Society for Comparative Legislation has as its purpose the study and comparison of the law and laws of different countries and research into practical methods of improving the various branches of legislation. Its mode of operation is to organize meetings and conferences, participate in all kinds of scientific meetings and work with bodies interested in the field of comparative law. It has consultative status with the International Labour Office and the Council of Europe. It publishes the quarterly *Revue internationale de droit comparé*, the only general international comparative law review published in France.

B. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization's vision

In 2006, the executive board of the Society for Comparative Legislation created new sections for its members: the European Union Section, the Russia and non-European Union Eastern European countries section, the Asia section, the Latin America section, the Arab countries in the Mediterranean region section. It also created thematic sections as follows: comparative law; constitutional law; private international law; public and private contract and responsibility law; and community law. The goal of these sections is to organize meetings, seminars and symposiums within the groups and to develop legal and judicial expertise, issue opinions and provide analyses of comparative law for, inter alia, the attention of the Cour de Cassation, the Ministry of Justice and legislative assemblies.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Between 2006 and 2009, the Society for Comparative Legislation organized the following events related to the work and objectives of the United Nations: 2006, the tenth Franco-Chinese law days; 2007, the eleventh Franco-Chinese law days; 2008, a study day on the subject of the influence of the European Convention on Human Rights on the organization and operation of supreme courts; 2009, the third Franco-Indian days; symposium on recent jurisprudence on the law of new technologies. Likewise, the Society published the following monographs: "*Egalité des sexes: la discrimination positive en question*" (2006); "*La lutte internationale contre le blanchiment et le financement du terrorisme*" (2007); "*L'enfant en droit musulman*" (2008); "*Le droit indien en marche et la circulation des concepts juridiques*" (2009).

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

The Society has not itself participated in events organized by the United Nations.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Society has not participated in the work of the United Nations because it is focusing on the elaboration and introduction of a draft on a planned reform of European contract law.

12. Tchad agir pour l'environnement

Special consultative status granted in 2006

I. Introduction

We are working to increase the knowledge and awareness of the Swiss and the international public about desertification, and the evaporation of the surface water of Lake Chad.

A. Aims of the organization

To protect the environment and to safeguard Lake Chad and human rights.

B. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization's vision

We participate in the General Assembly of the Global Environment Facility.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

We participate in human rights conferences.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

Yes.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

We are fighting against poverty and for a good environment.

C. Additional information

We are seeking financing for the implementation of our projects.

13. Union nationale de la femme tunisienne

General consultative status granted in 2002

I. Introduction

The Union nationale de la femme tunisienne (UNFT) was established in 1956 at the time of Tunisia's independence. At the outset, UNFT focused on awareness-raising campaigns for women throughout the country to make them aware of their rights and their role in economic and social development.

A. Aims of the organization

To improve the status of women and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against them; to see to the advancement of women in all fields, economic, social, cultural and scientific; to involve women increasingly in the centres of power and decision-making; to develop programmes designed to increase women's involvement in development; to improve women's education by, on the one hand, combating illiteracy and, on the other, dealing with the factors that cause girls to drop out of school; to provide training, in UNFT's vocational training centres, for girls who have already dropped out of school; to facilitate women's access to new information and communication technologies; to fight for the eradication of poverty and the creation of income sources for women; and to help support vulnerable families.

B. Principal activities

Social integration of women through two reception and orientation centres for women in distress (cases of marital conflict: housing, divorce, marital violence); economic integration of women through 250 vocational training centres and the microcredit system which has been in operation since 2005; facilities for children include 47 kindergartens throughout the national territory; organization of educational caravans and training programmes for women.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Representatives of the Union participated in the work of the first Arab Congress on Human Rights, held on 14 and 15 December 2008, in Doha, as part of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. UNFT representatives participated from 28 to 30 November 2008, in Bamako, in a programme organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to establish a network of African Muslim women.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

(a) Organized a meeting on 6 December 2008, at the GEANT supermarket, to raise public awareness about AIDS and how to combat it; (b) organized a Day for the Elimination of Violence on 15 December 2008 for rural women.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: (a) ceremonies for the distribution of school aid for children from needy families every school year. In 2009, UNFT helped 10,000 pupils and provided financial aid; (b) establishment of an operational microcredit system. Establishment of a centre to assist women with economic and microcredit activities.

Goal 2: In rural areas 28 regional delegations carry out basic work: distribution of aid for children of needy families.

Goal 3: (a) UNFT vocational training centres (250 centres); (b) literacy classes given by UNFT for rural girls or girls who are failing in school.

Goal 4: Project "Women and the Protection of Forests". Organization of a workshop on the theme "training of facilitators for the community monitoring of the impact of pesticides on health and on the environment".

D. Activities in support of the principles agreed to at the world level

On 11 March 2009, on the occasion of the celebration of International Women's Day, UNFT organized a one-day seminar on "The role of UNFT in combating domestic violence: preventive and curative dimensions". A documentary film was shown for the occasion. Also, as part of the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UNFT organized a national conference on the participation of women in public life.

E. Other activities

UNFT, in partnership with the Tunis Office of the International Organization for Migration and in collaboration with the Centre for Health Education and Appropriate Health Technologies, organized a training programme on cooperation and development for a group of Mediterranean women, as part of a project financed by the Anna Lindh foundation.

14. World Organization against Torture

Special consultative status granted in 1998

I. Introduction

The organization is today the main international coalition of non-governmental organizations that combat torture, summary executions, forced disappearances and any other cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment. In coordinating the SOS Torture network, composed of 297 non-governmental organizations throughout the world, it has set itself the task of strengthening and supporting the activities of organizations in the field. Its strategy is based on the idea that human rights violations must be looked at in light of the local and international context in which they take place, as well as the persons affected by the violations.

A. Aims of the organization

It seeks to (a) contribute to the complete prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment and to provide protection for actual or potential victims; and (b) identify new and emerging subjects in connection with the campaign against torture and to take action. Its specific aims are to: prevent acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and put a stop to them; end the impunity accorded to the perpetrators of such acts; deal with the structural causes of torture and other punishment, including poverty,

marginalization and inequality; safeguard the integrity of regional and international standards concerning complete prohibition of torture and other punishments and provide effective control mechanisms; make known the fundamental human rights of specific groups (inter alia, women, children, defenders of human rights, persons living in extreme poverty, as well as migrants, indigenous peoples, lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgender people, persons with disabilities) at the national, regional and international levels; develop and implement effective international instruments to combat torture and related forms of violence.

B. Changes which have had a significant impact on the organization's vision

In December 2008, the organization's General Assembly amended its statutes, resulting in the following changes: the General Assembly is now composed of 40 persons in order to facilitate and strengthen the link between the organization's international secretariat and members of the SOS-Torture network, and its 10-member Executive Board.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The organization has very close working relations with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council and has become one of the main providers of information and emergency operations to the Special Rapporteurs. From 2006 to 2009, it carried out 2,582 emergency operations on behalf of thousands of victims, which sustained the Special Procedures system. It has submitted 37 alternative reports and 5 information notes to the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

WOAT has participated in the work of the Human Rights Council by carrying out operations, and engaging in interactive dialogues with the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Special Rapporteurs on, inter alia, the situation of human rights in Lebanon, Darfur, in eastern DRC, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Sri Lanka as well as during universal period reviews: India, Philippines and Tunisia, Benin, Guatemala, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Colombia.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

The list of parallel events it has organized or co-organized, or ones in which it has participated as a panellist in the context of the non-treaty mechanisms of the United Nations is long and varied and includes such issues as women defenders of human rights, the annual report of the observatory for the protection of human rights defenders and anti-terrorism legislation in Tunisia.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The strategy to combat torture and mistreatment developed by the organization includes the struggle against extreme poverty (Goal 1). Torture and mistreatment most frequently affect persons from the less privileged classes.

15. World Road Association

Special consultative status granted in 1970

I. Introduction

The World Road Association (www.piarc.org), formerly the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses, changed its name in 1995 following the formulation of its first strategic plan, but has nevertheless retained its original acronym PIARC.

A. Aims of the organization

The Association seeks to foster international cooperation and progress in: (a) the formulation of road transport policies; (b) the design, construction, planning and maintenance of roads; (c) the operation and management of road networks; (d) the transfer of technology, particularly to developing countries and countries in transition. At the end of 2009, it had 118 member countries, 715 group members and more than 1,340 private members, in more than 140 countries. The members of the technical committees help draft *Routes/Roads* — the Association's bilingual French-English quarterly magazine, which is distributed in 142 countries — plus the proceedings of the Association's quadrennial congresses.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The Association has organized 28 international seminars in 21 developing countries or in countries whose economy is in transition; it has provided individual financial assistance to facilitate participation in the Association's activities; has hosted the World Interchange Network; has managed the HDM-4 software platform for the technical and economic study of projects for the construction and maintenance of road networks and has undertaken the development of a version 2. It has also continued work in the field of terminology.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

Some of its activities are conducted in cooperation with United Nations entities. For example, the International Labour Organization (ILO) participates in the work of the technical committee dealing with rural roads and accessibility, and the World Health Organization (WHO) participates in the work of the technical committee dealing with road safety.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Several of the Association's operations fall within the framework of the global transport sector and contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. That is the case as regards sustainable development, reduction of road insecurity and the social equity of projects to develop transport systems that will open up and ensure access to rural zones.

C. Additional information

In 2009, the Association celebrated its centenary. The number of countries — particularly developing countries — that are members of the Association continues to grow, testifying to the interest that professionals from these countries take in its actions and products.